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cancel

supplied and stored in the data store 32. A very simple structure for the data store is shown in Figure 2 with each line corresponding to an individual address, the addresses being labelled on the left hand side 1, 2, 3, etc. The store 32 has a data section 33 and a priority section 34 in which is stored a priority value for the data at the corresponding address. Thus, in this example, the data at address 1 has priority 5, the data at address 2 has priority 2, and so on.

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly cancel Claim 4 without prejudice.

Kindly amend the following claims as indicated.

Sub B1

1. (Amended) A method of transmitting data relating to a number of different categories, from a central location to at least one remote receiver, the method comprising: allocating a priority to the data to be transmitted in accordance with its category, the priorities defining a relationship between the different categories of the data, transmitting the data in a manner determined by the allocated priorities; monitoring the data to be transmitted to determine whether the data will be transmitted within a satisfactory predetermined time period; and, if necessary, changing the priority of any data which has not yet been transmitted so that it will be transmitted within the said time period.

Sub B2

1. 8. (Amended) A method of providing services in conjunction with a TV broadcast system, the method comprising: transmitting data relating to a number of different categories of service in conjunction with a TV broadcast signal to a number of remote receivers using a method which comprises allocating a priority to the data to be transmitted in accordance with its category, the priorities defining a relationship between the different categories of the data; transmitting the data in a manner determined by the

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contd.*

7 allocated priorities; monitoring the data to be transmitted to determine whether the data
8 will be transmitted within a satisfactory predetermined time period; and, if necessary,
9 changing the priority to any data which has not yet been transmitted so that it will be
10 transmitted within the said time period.

Sub B3

1 10. (Amended) Apparatus for transmitting data relating to a number of different
2 categories, from a central location to at least one remote receiver, the apparatus
3 comprising: a processing system for allocating a priority to the data to be transmitted in
4 accordance with its category, the priorities defining a relationship between the different
5 categories of the data; and means for transmitting the data in a manner determined by the
6 allocated priorities, the processing system being adapted to monitor the data to be
7 transmitted and to determine whether the data will be transmitted within a satisfactory
8 predetermined time period, and if necessary, to change the priority of any data which has
9 not been transmitted so that it will be transmitted within the said time period.

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-11 remain in this application. Applicant respectfully requests re-examination.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lappington (5,734,413) in view of Rostoker, et al. (6,111,863). Applicant respectfully traverses. Even if the combination of Lappington and Rostoker were proper which applicant asserts is not the combination, still does not teach all the elements of the claims. Specifically, in Claim 1, "monitoring the data to be transmitted to determine whether the data will be transmitted within a satisfactory predetermined time period; and, if necessary, changing the priority of any data which has not yet been